

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Shoji AIHARA et al.

T. C. Art Unit : 3724

Appl. No. : 10/578,440 (U.S. National  
Stage of PCT/JP2004/016312)

Examiner : S.M. Michalski

Filed : November 4, 2004

Confirmation No. : 9055

For : BAND SAW MACHINE, SAW BLADE INSTALLATION METHOD  
IN BAND SAW MACHINE, SAW BLADE DRIVING METHOD,  
AND CUTTING METHOD

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

This paper is in response to the outstanding Official Action dated September 19, 2008, setting a three month period for response extending until December 19, 2008. If any extension of time is necessary, this is an express request for any necessary extension of time and authorization to charge any required extension of time fee or any other fees that may be required to preserve the pendency of the present application to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Applicant respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections in view of the herein-contained amendments and remarks.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this response.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 7 of this response.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 15 of this response.